

Application Serial No. 10/751,087
Amendment dated June 1, 2007
Reply to Office Action dated March 1, 2007

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (previously presented): A tibial knee implant for replacing a portion of the proximal tibial surface of a knee joint, the tibial knee implant being engageable with a femoral knee implant, the tibial knee implant comprising:

 a first articular bearing component;

 a second articular bearing component, the first and second articular bearing components comprising a first material exhibiting low wear and have a predetermined toughness value;

 an intercondylar component including an upwardly projecting intercondylar post engageable with the femoral knee implant to constrain the amount of relative motion permitted between the femoral and tibial knee implants, the intercondylar component comprising a second material having a predetermined toughness value greater than the first material; and

 at least one pin, the first articular bearing component, the second articular bearing component, and the intercondylar component being joined together by the pin extending into each of the components.

Claim 2 (original): The implant of claim 1 wherein the first and second materials comprise polymers.

Claim 3 (original): The implant of claim 2 wherein the first material comprises crosslinked polyethylene and the second material comprises uncrosslinked polyethylene.

Claim 4 (original): The implant of claim 1 wherein the first material comprises relatively highly crosslinked polyethylene and the second material comprises relatively lightly crosslinked polyethylene.

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Claim 5 (original): The implant of claim 1 wherein the first and second materials are different materials selected from the same class of materials.

Claim 6. (original): The implant of claim 5 wherein the first material comprises polyethylene and the second material comprises a poly(ketone).

Claim 7 (original): The implant of claim 1 wherein the first and second materials are selected from different classes of material.

Claim 8 (original): The implant of claim 7 wherein the first material comprises a polymer and the second material comprises a metal.

Claim 9 (original): The implant of claim 7 wherein the first material comprises a ceramic and the second material comprises a polymer.

Claims 10 and 11 (canceled)

Claim 12 (previously presented): The tibial knee implant of claim 1 wherein the first articular bearing component, the second articular bearing component, and the intercondylar component are provided in sets that can be selectively joined together intraoperatively.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The tibial knee implant of claim 1 wherein the first articular bearing component, the second articular bearing component, and the intercondylar component are permanently joined together at the time of manufacture.

Claims 14 - 17 (canceled)

Claim 18 (previously presented): The tibial knee implant of claim 1 wherein the intercondylar component comprises a unitary tray extending from the intercondylar

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eminence, the tray including a support surface for receiving the first and second articular bearing components.

Claim 19 – 21 (cancelled)

Claim 22 (previously presented): The tibial knee implant of claim 1 wherein the first articular bearing component, the second articular bearing component, and the intercondylar component are joined together with the intercondylar component being interposed between the first and second articular bearing components, the pin extending transversely into each of the components.